

"This is a major admission by the Indian regime," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "The CBI report has begun to lift the veil that has hidden the truth from the outside world," he said. "Finally they have conceded that the police have undertaken mass cremation of Sikhs. This clearly demonstrates that India is not the democracy it claims to be, but a tyranny that is running a campaign of ethnic cleansing against Sikhs and others."

"This is just one more piece of evidence that there is no place for Sikhs in an Indian 'democracy' that has murdered over 150,000 Sikhs since 1984," Dr. Aulakh said. "Only by liberating Khalistan from this reign of terror will we secure the blessings of liberty for the Sikh Nation," he said. Khalistan is the independent Sikh country declared on October 7, 1987. The Council of Khalistan, as its government in exile, leads the peaceful, democratic, nonviolent struggle for an independent Khalistan. "It is time for Sikhs to claim their right to be free," Dr. Aulakh said.

THE WEST INDIAN CELEBRATION

HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 29, 1996

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of the Connecticut West Indian community as they celebrate the independence of nations throughout the Caribbean.

The centuries, the West Indies received immigrants and settlers from every area of the world. These varied influences have mixed throughout the years to create a uniquely diverse cultural heritage. Once dominated by colonial powers, the people of the Caribbean islands have gained their independence, starting with Jamaica in 1962 and culminating with Nevis in 1983.

Celebration '96, enthusiastically supported and participated in by Connecticut residents, will be held from July 25 through August 3. The celebration is a yearly gala to promote and interpret Caribbean culture in the Northeast region, as well as to highlight and showcase the unity and cooperation among the Caribbean people.

West Indian Celebration '96, is led by the West Indian Celebration Committee, which is comprised of Marva Douglas, Mark Bailey, Anastasia Couloute, Barbara Diggs, and Egan Bovell. Special thanks also go to members of the activities committee: Joann Gibson, Neville Smith, La'mour Howell, Veronica Airey-Wilson, Olive James, Dennick Miller, Brenda Chester, Errol Smith, Dee Flowers, Keith Carr Sr., Martin Nelson, and to the West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc., the Caribbean American Society of Hartford, Inc., the Jamaica Progressive League, Inc., the Trinidad and Tobago American Society, the St. Lucia American Society of Hartford, Inc., the Sportsmen's Athletic Club of Hartford, Inc., the Caribbean Ladies Cultural Club of Hartford, Inc., the Guyanese American Cultural Association of Hartford, Inc., the Barbados American Society of Hartford, Inc., and the Connecticut Haitians American Society.

I would like to congratulate the United States' second largest West Indian community for not only their achievements, but their positive community presence and involvement. I encourage them to continue to celebrate their heritage that enriches the lives of all Americans.